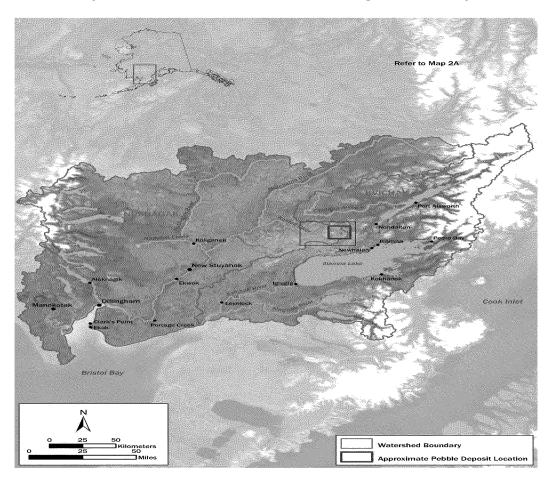
# Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment - Public Meetings - Community Profiles



# King Salmon

a.k.a. Sovonoski

Current Population: 391 (2011 Alaska Department of Labor Estimate)

Incorporation Type: Unincorporated
Located In: Unincorporated
Bristol Bay Borough

Taxes: Sales: None, Property: 13.0 mills median rate(Borough),

Special: 3% Raw Fish Tax (Borough); 8% Bed Tax

(Borough)

#### **Location and Climate**

King Salmon is located on the north bank of the Naknek River on the Alaska Peninsula, about 15 miles upriver from Naknek. It is 284 miles southwest of Anchorage. The community lies at approximately 58.688330° North Latitude and 156.661390° West Longitude. (Sec. 23, T017S, R045W, Seward Meridian.) King Salmon is located in the Kvichak Recording District.

The climate is mainly maritime, characterized by cool, humid, and windy weather. Average summer temperatures range from 42 to 63 °F; average winter temperatures range from 29 to 44 °F. Extremes from -46 to 88 °F have been recorded. Total precipitation averages 20 inches annually, with 45 inches of snowfall. Fog is common during summer months.

# History, Culture and Demographics

Present-day tribal members are descendents of a group that was forced to relocate to King Salmon due to the eruption of Mount Katmai, on the east coast of the peninsula. In the 1930s, an air navigation silo was built at King Salmon. At the beginning of World War II, the U.S. built an Air Force base. It was maintained by the Federal Aviation Administration throughout the war. In 1949, a post office was established, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed a road to Naknek. Other government quarters, such as National Park Service, Fish & Game, and the weather bureau, were developed. The King Salmon Inn opened in 1956. The community has grown as a government, transportation, and service center for the commercial red salmon and recreational visitor industries. In 1993, the Air Force station went into a caretaker status. It is being maintained and operated under contract for the Air Force by the Chugach Development Corporation and supports daily military activities, including Air Force, Army, Marine, and North American Air Defense (NORAD) missions and US Coast Guard law enforcement and search and rescue missions. As well, the Bristol Bay Borough and the State of Alaska are using several buildings on the base.

A federally-recognized tribe is located in the community -- the King Salmon Tribe. The Native population is a mixture of Aleuts, Indians, and Eskimos. Although King Salmon was not included in the 1972 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), the King Salmon Tribe became a federally recognized entity as of December 29, 2000. There are 24 active Native allotment claims and 2 patented claims near King Salmon. Students attend school in Naknek, 15 miles away.

According to Census 2010, there were 336 housing units in the community and 157 were occupied. Its population was 27.8 percent American Indian or Alaska Native; 61.2 percent white; 1.3 percent Asian; 0.3 percent Pacific Islander; 8.8 percent of the local residents had multi-racial backgrounds. Additionally, 2.7 percent of the population was of Hispanic decent.

## Facilities, Utilities, Schools and Health Care

Approximately 80% of households have individual wells and are fully plumbed. Most of these wells are shallow and range from 30 to 40 feet. FAA housing, located on the east side, is served by its own well and treatment system. The borough operates a piped sewage system that serves most residents. The former Air Force base has an independent piped sewage system and lagoon. Some residents use individual septic tanks. The borough operates a landfill, incinerator, and balefill, located at mile 5 between King Salmon and Naknek, for use by both communities. Garbage collection is contracted to a private firm. Electricity is provided by Naknek Electric Association. There is one school located in the community, attended by 2 students. Local hospitals or health clinics include King Salmon Health Clinic. Emergency Services have limited highway airport and floatplane access. Emergency service is provided by volunteers and a health aide Auxiliary health care is provided by Bristol Bay Borough Emergency Services (907-246-4224/4222) Camai Clinic in Naknek (907-246-6155).

## **Economy**

Government jobs, transportation, and fishing-related employment are the mainstays of the King Salmon economy. In 2010, 33 residents held commercial fishing permits. Air services employ a large portion of the community, as King Salmon is a major air transportation point for Bristol Bay salmon. The Bristol Bay red salmon fishery is the largest in the world, although there have been relatively poor seasons, such as in the early 1970s, 1982, and 1997. Salmon prices have declined in recent years. King Salmon is also a departure point for the Katmai National Park and Preserve, which includes the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary, Brooks Camp, and the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. Fishing for all five species of salmon and rainbow trout are one of this area's top attractions. King Salmon Airport is the summer hub for

wilderness and fishing adventures in the area. The Air Force base has been closed, although it is maintained under contract by Chugach Development Corporation.

The 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) estimated 164¹ residents as employed. The public sector employed 25.6%¹ of all workers. The local unemployment rate was 10.9%¹. The percentage of workers not in labor force was 33.6%¹. The ACS surveys established that average median household income (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) was \$90,417 (MOE +/-\$23,211)¹. The per capita income (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) was \$36,510 (MOE +/-\$7,681)¹. About 1.9%¹ of all residents had incomes below the poverty level.

# **Transportation**

King Salmon is a transportation hub for Bristol Bay. Formerly an Air Force base, the state-owned airport has an 8,901' long by 150' wide paved, lighted runway and a 4,018' long by 100' wide asphalt/gravel crosswind runway. There are scheduled jet flights and charter services to and from Anchorage. A 4,000' stretch of the Naknek River is designated for float planes. A seaplane base is also located at Lake Brooks, within the Katmai National Park to the east. Four docks are available on the Naknek River -- owned by the U.S. Park Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Alaska State Troopers, and the Bristol Bay Borough. Cargo goods are delivered to Naknek by barge and trucked upriver to King Salmon via a 15-mile connecting road. During winter, an ice road provides access to South Naknek. Vehicles are the primary means of local transportation; skiffs are used during summer.

# **Organizations with Local Offices**

**Economic Development - Chamber of Commerce** - Bristol Bay Borough Chamber of Commerce PO Box 224

King Salmon, AK 99613 Phone 907-246-2222 E-mail ahallfam@bristolbay.com Web http://www.visitbristolbay.info

Electric Utility - Naknek Electric P.O. Box 118 Naknek, AK 99633-0118 Phone 907-246-4261 Fax 907-246-6242 E-mail nakelec@bristolbay.com Web http://www.nea.coop/

Other - The Southwest Alaska Vocational and Education Center P.O. Box 615
King Salmon, AK 99613

Tribe - federally recognized - King Salmon Tribe P.O. Box 68
King Salmon, AK 99613-0068
Phone 907-246-3553
Fax 907-246-3449
E-mail kstvc@starband.net
Web http://www.bbna.com

# Naknek

(NACK-neck)

**Current Population:** 571 (2011 Alaska Department of Labor Estimate)

Incorporation Type: Unincorporated
Located In: Bristol Bay Borough

Taxes: Sales: None, Property: 13.0 mills median rate(Borough),

Special: 3% Raw Fish Tax (Borough); 8% Bed Tax

(Borough)

#### **Location and Climate**

Naknek is located on the north bank of the Naknek River, at the northeastern end of Bristol Bay. It is 297 miles southwest of Anchorage. The community lies at approximately 58.728330° North Latitude and -157.013890° West Longitude. (Sec. 03, T017S, R047W, Seward Meridian.) Naknek is located in the Kvichak Recording District.

The climate is mainly maritime, characterized by cool, humid, and windy weather. Average summer temperatures range from 42 to 63 °F; average winter temperatures range from 29 to 44 °F. Extremes from -46 to 88 °F have been recorded. Total precipitation averages 20 inches annually, with 45 inches of snowfall. Fog is common during summer months.

# History, Culture and Demographics

This region was first settled over 6,000 years ago by Yup'ik Eskimos and Athabascan Indians. In 1821, the original Eskimo village of "Naugeik" was noted by Capt. Lt. Vasiliev. By 1880, the village was called Kinuyak. It was later spelled Naknek by the Russian Navy. The Russians built a fort near the village and fur trappers inhabited the area for some time prior to the U.S. purchase of Alaska. The first salmon cannery opened on the Naknek River in 1890. By 1900, there were approximately 12 canneries in Bristol Bay. The Homestead Act enabled canneries to acquire land for their plants and also made land available to other institutions and individuals. The parcel owned by the Russian Orthodox Church on the north bank of the River was the first land recorded in Naknek. Squatters built shelters on the church property and were eventually sold lots in what became the center of Naknek. A post office was established in 1907. Naknek has developed over the years as a major fishery center.

A federally-recognized tribe is located in the community -- the Naknek Native Village. Naknek is a fishing community, with a mixed population of non-Natives, Yup'ik Eskimos, Alutiiq, and Athabascans.

According to Census 2010, there were 460 housing units in the community and 231 were occupied. Its population was 30.3 percent American Indian or Alaska Native; 44.5 percent white; 0.4 percent Asian; 0.4 percent Pacific Islander; 24.1 percent of the local residents had multi-racial backgrounds. Additionally, 2.6 percent of the population was of Hispanic decent.

## Facilities, Utilities, Schools and Health Care

The schools, the majority of households, and HUD housing have individual wells. Almost all homes are fully plumbed. A piped sewage collection system operated by the borough serves most residents; some have individual septic tanks. The landfill and balefill are operated by the borough, located at mile 5 between Naknek and King Salmon. Refuse collection is provided by a private firm. Electricity is provided by Naknek Electric Association. There are 2 schools located in the community, attended by 178 students. Local hospitals or health clinics include Camai Community Health Center. Emergency Services have limited highway coastal river floatplane and air access. Emergency service is provided by 911 Telephone Service volunteers and a health aide. Auxiliary health care is provided by Bristol Bay Borough Fire Department (907-246-4222/246-4224).

# **Economy**

The economy is based on government employment, salmon fishing, and processing. Naknek has a seasonal economy as a service center for the huge red salmon fishery in Bristol Bay. In 2010, 106 residents held commercial fishing permits, and several thousand people typically flood the area during the fishing season. Millions of pounds of salmon are trucked over the Naknek to King Salmon road each summer, where jets transport the fish to the lower 48. Trident Seafoods, Ocean Beauty, and other fish processors operate facilities in Naknek. Naknek is also the seat of the Bristol Bay Borough.

The 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) estimated 237¹ residents as employed. The public sector employed 27.8%¹ of all workers. The local unemployment rate was 10.6%¹. The percentage of workers not in labor force was 29.7%¹. The ACS surveys established that average median household income (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) was \$93,750 (MOE +/-\$34,479)¹. The per capita income (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) was \$30,378 (MOE +/-\$6,220)¹. About 5.1%¹ of all residents had incomes below the poverty level.

# **Transportation**

Naknek is accessible by air and sea and connects to King Salmon via a 15.5-mile road. The Tibbetts Airport has a lighted 1,700' long by 60' wide gravel runway. The state-owned Naknek Airport is located one mile north of Naknek. It has a 1,950' long by 50' wide lighted gravel runway, a 1,850' long and 45' wide gravel runway, and 2,000' float plane landing area. Jet services are available at King Salmon. The borough operates the cargo dock at Naknek, which is the port of Bristol Bay. It has 800' of berthing space, a concrete surface, and a couple of cranes. No commercial docking facilities are available at the canneries. Pickup trucks and cars are common, and taxis are available.

# **Organizations with Local Offices**

Tribe - federally recognized - Naknek Native Village P.O. Box 106
Naknek, AK 99633-0106
Phone 907-246-4210
Fax 907-246-3563
E-mail nnvacak@bristolbay.com
Web http://www.bbna.com

Village Corporation - Paug-Vik Incorporated, Limited P.O. Box 61
Naknek, AK 99633
Phone 907-246-4277
E-mail manager@pvil.com
Web http://www.pvil.com

# Levelock

(LEEV-lock)

Current Population:

81 (2011 Alaska Department of Labor Estimate)

Incorporation Type: Unincorporated

Located In: Lake and Peninsula Borough

Taxes: Sales: None, Property: None, Special:

Borough taxes: 2% Fish Tax; 6% Bed Tax; \$3 per person/day guide tax; \$1 person/day lodge guide tax.

#### **Location and Climate**

Levelock is located on the west bank of the Kvichak River, 10 miles inland from Kvichak Bay. It lies 40 miles north of Naknek and 278 air miles southwest of Anchorage. It is located near the Alagnak Wild and Scenic River Corridor. The community lies at approximately 59.115000° North Latitude and -156.856670° West Longitude. (Sec. 28, T012S, R045W, Seward Meridian.) Levelock is located in the Kvichak Recording District.

Levelock is in a climatic transition zone; it is primarily maritime, although the continental climate also affects the weather. Average summer temperatures range from 30 to 66 °F; winter temperatures average from 4 to 30 °F. Annual rainfall averages 26 inches, with 70 inches of snow. Fog and low clouds are common during the summer. The river is ice-free from June through mid-November.

# History, Culture and Demographics

Early Russian explorers reported the presence of Levelock, which they called "Kvichak." The smallpox epidemic of 1837 killed more than half of the residents of the Bristol Bay region and left entire villages abandoned. Kvichak was mentioned during the 1890 census, although the population was not measured. A measles epidemic hit the region in 1900. A 1908 survey of Russian missions identified "Lovelock's Mission" at this site. The worldwide influenza epidemic in 1918-19 again devastated area villages. Koggiung Packers operated a cannery at Levelock in 1925-26. A large fire, attributed to a cannery worker's careless cigarette, threatened the entire village in 1926, but residents dug fire lines that saved their homes. The fire depleted the scarce wood resources used to heat homes. A second cannery operated from 1928-29. In 1930 the first school was built, and a post office was established in 1939. By this time, families had converted their homes to oil heat. Moose first appeared in the area in the 1930s. During the early 1950s, another cannery was in operation.

A federally-recognized tribe is located in the community -- the Levelock Village. Levelock is a mixed Alutiiq and Yup'ik village. Commercial fishing and subsistence activities are the focus of the community. Sharing is a way of life in this village; no one goes hungry for lack of ability to hunt or fish.

According to Census 2010, there were 48 housing units in the community and 27 were occupied. Its population was 84.1 percent American Indian or Alaska Native; 10.1 percent white; 5.8 percent of the local residents had multi-racial backgrounds.

# Facilities, Utilities, Schools and Health Care

Levelock homes and facilities use individual water wells and septic systems. Thirty-five homes have complete plumbing. The school operates its own well and water treatment facility. A washeteria is available, operated by the village council. The village council also provides septic pumping and refuse collection services between May and September. Electricity is provided by Levelock Electric Cooperative. There is one school located in the community, attended by 20 students. Local hospitals or health clinics include Levelock Clinic. Emergency Services have river and air access. Emergency service is provided by a health aide. Auxiliary health care is provided by Levelock First Responders (907-287-3011).

#### Economy

In 2010, 6 residents held commercial fishing permits. Most travel to Naknek to fish or work in the canneries during the summer season. Several seasonal lodges operate in the area. The community relies upon subsistence activities for a large portion of its diet. Salmon, trout, moose, caribou, and berries are harvested.

The 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) estimated 46<sup>1</sup> residents as employed. The public sector employed 21.7%<sup>1</sup> of all workers. The local unemployment rate was 17.9%<sup>1</sup>. The percentage of

workers not in labor force was 28.2%<sup>1</sup>. The ACS surveys established that average median household income (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) was \$46,607 (MOE +/-\$20,537)<sup>1</sup>. The per capita income (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) was \$8,400 (MOE +/-\$4,805)<sup>1</sup>. About 20.2%<sup>1</sup> of all residents had incomes below the poverty level.

# **Transportation**

Levelock is accessible by air and water. In the winter, trails to surrounding villages are used. The state owns a 3,281' long by 59' wide lighted gravel runway in Levelock. Scheduled and charter flights are available. Bulk goods are delivered by barge. A 110' dock and beach unloading area are available.

# **Organizations with Local Offices**

Electric Utility - Levelock Electrical Coop P.O. Box 70 Levelock, AK 99625-9999 Phone 907-287-3058 E-mail levelock@aol.com

## Tribe - federally recognized - Levelock Village

P.O. Box 70 Levelock, AK 99625 Phone 907-287-3030 Fax 907-287-3032 E-mail levelock@starband.net Web http://www.bbna.com

Village Corporation - Levelock Natives Limited P.O. Box 109 Levelock, AK 99625 Phone 907-287-3040 Fax 907-287-3022

# **New Stuyahok**

(STEW-yuh-hawk)

Current Population: 501 (2011 Alaska Department of Labor Estimate)

**Incorporation Type:** 2nd Class City

Located In: Dillingham Census Area

Taxes: Sales: None, Property: None, Special: None

### **Location and Climate**

New Stuyahok is located on the Nushagak River, about 12 miles upriver from Ekwok and 52 miles northeast of Dillingham. The village has been constructed at two elevations -- one 25 feet above river level and one about 40 feet

above river level. The community lies at approximately 59.452780° North Latitude and -157.311940° West Longitude. (Sec. 29, T008S, R047W, Seward Meridian.) New Stuyahok is located in the Bristol Bay Recording District. The area encompasses 32.6 sq. miles of land and 2.0 sq. miles of water.

New Stuyahok is located in a climatic transition zone. The primary influence is maritime, although a continental climate affects the weather. Average summer temperatures range from 37 to 66 °F; winter temperatures average 4 to 30 °F. Annual precipitation ranges from 20 to 35 inches. Fog and low clouds are common during the summer; strong winds often preclude access during the winter. The river is ice-free from June through mid-November.

# History, Culture and Demographics

The present location is the third site that villagers can remember. The village moved downriver to the Mulchatna area from the "Old Village" in 1918. During the 1920s and 30s, the village was engaged in herding reindeer for the U.S. government. However, by 1942, the herd had dwindled to nothing, the village had been subjected to flooding, and the site was too far inland to receive barge service. So, in 1942, the village moved downriver again to its present location. Stuyahok appropriately means "going downriver place." The first school was built in 1961. A post office was also established that year. An airstrip was built soon thereafter, and the 1960s saw a 40% increase in the village population. The city was incorporated in 1972.

A federally-recognized tribe is located in the community -- the New Stuyahok Village. New Stuyahok is a southern Yup'ik Eskimo village with Russian Orthodox influences. Residents practice a fishing and subsistence lifestyle.

According to Census 2010, there were 130 housing units in the community and 114 were occupied. Its population was 93.5 percent American Indian or Alaska Native; 3.5 percent white; 0.2 percent Pacific Islander; 2.8 percent of the local residents had multi-racial backgrounds. Additionally, 1.2 percent of the population was of Hispanic decent.

### Facilities, Utilities, Schools and Health Care

Water is derived from a well and treated. The majority (94 homes) of housing and facilities, as well as the school, have complete plumbing and are connected to a piped water and sewer system installed in 1971. Some residents use individual wells and septic tanks; six homes are without complete plumbing. Electricity is provided by AVEC. There is one school located in the community, attended by 152 students. Local hospitals or health clinics include New Stuyahok Clinic. Emergency Services have river and air access. Emergency service is provided by volunteers and a health aide. Auxiliary health care is provided by New Stuyahok First Responders (907-693-3173).

#### **Economy**

The primary economic base in New Stuyahok is the salmon fishery; in 2010, 24 residents held commercial fishing permits. Many trap as well. The entire community relies upon subsistence foods. Subsistence items are often traded between communities. Salmon, moose, caribou, rabbit, ptarmigan, duck, and geese are the primary sources of meat.

The 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) estimated 141¹ residents as employed. The public sector employed 24.8%¹ of all workers. The local unemployment rate was 17.1%¹. The percentage of workers not in labor force was 56.9%¹. The ACS surveys established that average median household income (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) was \$43,000 (MOE +/-\$9,083)¹. The per capita income (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) was \$10,284 (MOE +/-\$2,295)¹. About 29.3%¹ of all residents had incomes below the poverty level.

#### **Transportation**

Air transport is most frequently used to reach the community. Regular and charter flights are available from Dillingham. The lighted, state-owned gravel airstrip is 3,281' long by 98' wide. Goods are lightered on a regular basis during the summer. Skiffs, ATVs, and snowmachines are the prevalent forms of local

#### transportation.

# **Organizations with Local Offices**

City - City of New Stuyahok
P.O. Box 10
New Stuyahok, AK 99636
Phone 907-693-3171
Fax 907-693-3176
E-mail cityofnewstuyahok@bristolbay.com or knwadmin@bristolbay.com

Tribe - federally recognized - New Stuyahok Village P.O. Box 49
New Stuyahok, AK 99636
Phone 907-693-3173
Fax 907-693-3179
E-mail nstc@starband.net
Web http://www.bbna.com

Village Corporation - Stuyahok Limited P.O. Box 50 New Stuyahok, AK 99636 Phone 907-693-3122 Fax 907-693-3148